

Carlsbad Caverns

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
New Mexico
www.nps.gov/cave



50th Annual Bat Flight Breakfast July 28, 5 to 7 a.m.



Note: Following is a detailed schedule of ranger programs before and after the *Bat Flight Breakfast*. All times are Mountain Daylight Time (MDT).

Friday, July 27

3 p.m.

Meet the Bats of Talking Talons

Talking Talons Youth Leadership from Tijeras, New Mexico, will feature Mexican free-tail bats, pallid bats, big brown bats, fruit bats, and the white winged vampire bat. Stop by after the presentation to meet live, rehabilitated Mexican free-tailed, pallid, and big brown bats. Program conducted by Talking Talons staff educator Luke Fields. Program also given at 9 a.m., July 28. Location: Underground Lunchroom.

4 p.m.

Thermal Imaging Technology

Join park biologist Danielle Foster and see footage from our famous bat roost. Video of the bats' emergence and flight path will be shown using thermal infrared imaging, which is being used to determine current population estimates for Carlsbad Cavern. Program also given at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., July 28. Location: Underground Lunchroom.

4:45 p.m.

Bats: Masters of the Night Sky

Join Grand Canyon National Park ranger Pam Cox as she dispels some of the myths commonly associated with bats. Location: Underground Lunchroom.

5:30 p.m.

Climbing Demonstration

Watch as skilled cavers enter the home of bats... caves. Join park rangers as they share their expertise in vertical skills, explain various pieces of gear, and demonstrate different climbing techniques as they descend into the mouth of Carlsbad Cavern. Program also given at 7 a.m., July 28. Location: Bat Flight Amphitheater.

- 6 p.m. **Talking Talons**
Learn about the common and not-so-common predators that hunt the Mexican free-tailed bat at night, and other predators from around the world. The program will be conducted with live predators from Talking Talons Youth Leadership. Program conducted by Talking Talons staff educator Luke Fields. Location: Bat Flight Amphitheater.
- 7:30 p.m. **Bat Flight Program**
Join park ranger Shannan Marcak as she explores the fantastic flying creatures of the night—Carlsbad Caverns' famous Mexican free-tail bat colony. A special appearance will be made by the park's mascot, Carl S. Bat. Location: Bat Flight Amphitheater.

Saturday, July 28

- 4:45-6:45 a.m. **Bat Flight Watch**
Watch the Mexican free-tail bat emergence back into the cave from their nightly feed. Location: Bat Flight Amphitheater.
- 6:30 a.m. **Lantern Tour #1**
Walk down the Main Corridor of the cave and experience the cave the way early explorers would have—by lantern light. Tour is limited to first 75 people in line at the *Bat Flight Breakfast*. Note: The Natural Entrance Route is considered a steep, strenuous hike.
- 7 a.m. **Lantern Tour #2**
Tour is limited to the second set of 75 people in line at the *Bat Flight Breakfast*.
- 7 a.m. **Climbing Demonstration**
Location: Bat Flight Amphitheater.
- 9 a.m. **Meet the Bats of Talking Talons**
Location: Underground Lunchroom.
- 10 a.m. **Thermal Imaging Technology**
Location: Underground Lunchroom.
- 11 a.m. **Bats Jeopardy!**
Join Grand Canyon National Park ranger Pam Cox and find out how much you really know about bats. Prizes will be awarded for the highest bat fact IQ. Location: Underground Lunchroom.
- Noon **Raptors and Reptiles**
Learn about rehabilitated raptors and rescued reptiles from Talking Talons and Carlsbad Caverns National Park staff. Live raptors, reptiles, and one very large snake will be featured. Location: Underground Lunchroom.
- 1 p.m. **Thermal Imaging Technology**
Location: Underground Lunchroom.